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Strategic plan

The public library has presented its new strategic plan and vision

Brownie blitz

July 2 saw the first-ever Brownie Bonanza Festival at the Bradford Farmers' Market

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MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Music, Ribs and Wrestling! Getting ready for the fourth annual Bradford Ribfest - in front, BWG Events Group member Steve McKeown, sponsor Christopher Davies - Re/MAX Realtron Realty, Heather Frampton - Zehrs Mgr. Standing, from left, Councillor Raj Sandhu, Sonia Reis from Summerlyn Dental Care, musicians Jason Macdonald and Jon Tanner, BWG Events Group President Ricky Brooks, Destiny World Wrestling star Randy Reign, Gary Assis - Bradford Times, Ifthikhar Ahmad - Broker of Record with Metro King Realty, Munawar Chudary-MetroKing Realty, and Sara Singh, Royal LePage At Your Service, with ribs at Zehrs in Bradford.

Getting ready for Ribfest

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

The BWG Events Group barely had time to recover from hosting its first-ever Bradford Food Truck Festival, when it had to hit the ground running, to prepare for the fourth annual

Bradford Ribfest - three days of ribs, music and fun, July 22-24.

Once again, Ribfest is taking place in the open area in front of Zehrs Market, 500 Holland St. W. Admission is \$2 (free for accompanied

children 12 and under), with activities that include a midway, Vendors' Market, KidZone, face-painting, beer garden, live music on the main stage, rib-eating contest - and great food prepared by five top ribbers.

Sticky Fingers, Billy Bones BBQ, Camp 31 and Haws Gone Wild will all be returning to Bradford - joined by a new entry, Pig Kahuna.

Continued Page 15

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Metrolinx meeting goes off the rails in Bradford

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

Metrolinx held a public meeting in Bradford, July 13, to explain planned improvements to the Barrie line, and a proposed new train layover facility in Bradford West Gwillimbury.

But before Metrolinx could present its information, on doubling of the track from Allandale to Lansdowne Ave. in Toronto, planned increases to service, and a preferred site for the layover facility, the meeting went off the rails, as several residents bombarded presenters with questions on everything from frequency of service, to a definition of rush hour, and concerns over train whistles.

Metrolinx is looking at ways to address traffic congestion in the GTA. The average commute time by car is now 82 minutes, projected to increase to 109 minutes as the Greater Golden Horse shoe and Barrie area continue to experience high growth. The traffic congestion costs Ontario "billions of dollars every year" due to lost productivity, said Metro-

linx Senior Advisor Gina Collymore.

Rail is seen as part of the solution. Metrolinx has plans to add new stations - including a station at the 6th Line of Innisfil - and increase frequency of service. The eventual goal is to provide two-way, all-day service across all networks in the system seven days a week, by 2025, and electrify the trains, a project described as "the biggest infrastructure investment in Ontario's history."

Right now, the Barrie line carries 14 trains daily - five leaving from Allandale and two from Maple Station in the morning, and seven trains heading northbound from Union Station during the evening rush hours, augmented by GO bus service.

That will increase by two trains initially, so that trains will run from the Aurora Station every 15 minutes, and from Allandale every 30 minutes during peak times.

Metrolinx is also looking at midday service every 80 minutes, to and from Allandale. "We need to provide increased service because there is a need," said Caro-

lina Daz Ortiz, Professional engineer and Environmental Project Manager.

With plans to increase the level of service, a new train layover is needed, both for overnight storage and for train maintenance. Metrolinx looked at 11 potential sites in Bradford West Gwillimbury - including Line 13 (2 locations), Line 12 (2 locations), Line 11 (2 locations), Line 10, Line 9, Artesian Industrial Park, and a location south of the Bradford Station.

Looking at parameters that included environmental impact, proximity to residential areas, road access and municipal servicing, the 11 sites were shortlisted to six, and then to three recommended locations: Artesian Industrial Park, the northwest quadrant of Line 10, and the northwest quadrant of Line 13.

Information boards set up at the Bradford Community Centre identified the preferred location: along the tracks on the east side of Artesian Industrial Parkway.

Line 10 was dropped because it was too close to Scanlon Creek Conserva-

Metrolinx
Beyond This Point



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

information board, showing the impact of a proposed Train Layover facility on Artesian Industrial Parkway in Bradford.

tion Area and would take 16 hectares of agricultural land out of production; Line 13 required the least amount of land, but is in an area regulated by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, and would require the removal of 4.25 ha of woodland.

Only the 9.63 ha. Artesian site already has the Indus-

trial zoning needed, excellent road access, and servicing - although it will require the relocation of three businesses, and land-taking from several others. Metrolinx has already started talks with business owners, a spokesperson said. The whole process will require completion of an environmental assessment.

The Bradford meeting was supposed to end at 8 p.m., but it took a while before presenters could get things back on track, and the evening ran late. For more information or to comment on the Barrie Rail Corridor Expansion Project, contact Georgina Collymore at RERBarrie@metrolinx.com or 416-202-4921.



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Friesian horses fulfil a dream

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

Sid Weening has always loved Friesian horses – the coal-black, high-stepping breed developed in Friesland, in the Netherlands. For years, he's wanted to arrange for a team and carriage to attend a family gathering, to introduce this part of their heritage to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"We've been talking about it for years. It's part of our background," Sid says – but the dream never was realized, until July 16, when Weening's children gave him an early 83rd birthday present. They contacted family friend Ted Vander Kooi, and arranged for him to bring a pair of the horses and a beautifully restored antique buggy from Ingersoll to a family gathering in Bradford West Gwillimbury, providing horse-drawn carriage rides for the whole family.

Vander Kooi explains that the breed is "one of the oldest" in Europe; the studbook, which is kept in England, goes back 135 years, and is kept up to date through genetic testing, to ensure that only purebred horses are entered.

He and his wife Tine have been raising Friesians since

coming to Canada in 1999 – now joined by son Willem, who drove the Victorian carriage at the Weening party.

Weening, who came to Canada over 60 years ago, grew up in Friesland, and remembers that his father always had a horse on the farm – but never a Friesian.

"We've been talking about

this for a long time," said his wife Sylvia. "It's just perfect. This is a dream fulfilled, especially for Sidney." And to have "almost the whole family together" just made it more special.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Pair of Friesian horses from T & T Friesians pull a Victorian carriage – an early 83rd Birthday present for Sid Weening.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

From right, Ted and Tine Vander Kooi of T & T Friesians, brought a pair of their horses and a carriage to celebrate the 83rd birthday of Sid Weening, here with wife Sylvia.

News Briefs

Growing Forward 2 is a federal/provincial initiative that is offering free workshops for farmers, on topics that range from the Environmental Farm Plan to Bioscience and Food Safety. Bioscience: A Growing Your Farm Profits – Planning for Business Success' Workshop is planned for Bradford, July 22 and 23. The two-day interactive workshop will assess your business management practices, determine priorities and goals, develop realistic action plans, and provide information on cost-share funding opportunities. Free, but pre-register online at www.ontariobioscience.org.

Farming Under 40

The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, Simcoe County, invites young farmers to the 2016 Farming Under 40 Barbecue, Thursday, July 27 at Round's Ranch, 1522 County Rd. 32 in Elmville, at 6 p.m. There will be face painting, bouncy castles, cotton candy, a photo booth, prizes, giveaways, and a guest speaker from FCC on the "Age More than Ever" initiative. Free, but tickets are required. See farmersunder40simcoe.eventbrite.ca.

Sutton Fair

The 161st Annual Sutton Fair & Horse Show takes place at the Sutton Fairgrounds, August 4-7. Midway, Truck and tractor pull,

Agricultural update

petting zoo, agricultural exhibits and shows, horse pull, demolition derby and more – including the new Aqua Dogs. See www.suttonfair.com.

Run for BWG

The Run for Bradford (BWG) organized by the Almedija Muslim Jamaat will be returning to Bradford on Sunday, July 31 – a fundraiser for recreation, culture, heritage and family health services in the community. This year, the run will start and finish at the

grassy parkette between the BWG Leisure Centre and BWG Public Library and Cultural Centre. There will be a 3K Run, and 1K Walk, with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m., the run/walk beginning at 8 a.m., and ceremony at 9 a.m. Please pre-register online at www.runforbwg.ca or call 1-844-RUN-4-BWG. A fun run/walk, to benefit the community.



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*Amieva, et al. Journal of the American Geriatric Society, Vol 63, Issue 10, Oct 2015

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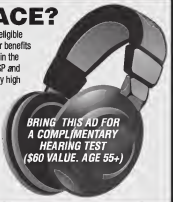
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Opinion

Point of View

Salaries won't solve public servant crisis

If you don't already work for the public service, what would it take to get you to jump ship from your current gig and head for the sunny shores of government?

The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada is betting on money, asking for an ambitious 12 per cent raise over three years for the professional government employees it represents. The reason, apparently, is that salaries of federal government professionals are outstripped by the private sector. Crank up that pay cheque, and the employees will come. This is important, considering more than 25,000 of these folks will be looking to retire in the next five years.

To modify the union's pitch slightly: Raise the salaries and the millennials will come. The concern is that the positions, at lower salaries, will still doubtless be filled, but the best and brightest will stay away unless compensated.

There might be truth to that.

But for a generation struggling with labour instability, the public service is already a relatively attractive employer. There are solid benefits, decent wages and long-term employment stability. Is money a factor? No doubt, but there are many other issues at play, including workplace culture; the public service has alarmingly high rates of depression and anxiety. Who

wants to walk into that job? A salary hike is unlikely to compensate for these troubling issues.

The union points out that many scientists shied away from the public service because of restrictions on speaking out about research that were in place under the Conservatives.

When it comes to employment, young people generally want to change the world for the better and do work they're passionate about, according to the Harvard Business Review. These desires, by the way, aren't particularly outlandish compared to other generations of workers. But it does speak to the complexity of actually getting more young people into the public service.

It may well be the case that professionals in the public service deserve a pay raise. Certainly, it can be argued. But the idea that salary hikes are needed because of the upcoming dearth of quality employees rather misses the boat, and in fact highlights other serious and pressing issues facing these unions and the government.

The question that needs asking isn't "how do we attract young people," but rather, "why aren't they coming in the numbers we need?"

Whatever the answer might be will set everyone down the right path to a successful public service.

—Postmedia Network

POSTMEDIA

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Early Bird Winner



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left, Bradford Lions Gary Hrynnyk, Reg Hipwell, Deb Hrynnyk and John Galloway, with winner Kevin Eek (and daughter Adilyn), Lions president Bob Pegg, and Lion Jim Stykhus. Congratulations to the first Early Bird Winner of \$100,000 in the Bradford Lions' Mammoth Draw for cash and cars, Kevin Eek. The winning ticket was drawn at Bradford West Gwillimbury's Canada Day Celebration; the second of three Early Bird Draws will take place August 20, at CarrotFest. Tickets are \$100 each, for a chance to win a share of \$102,362.75 in prizes—including the second prize of a 2016 Chevy Camaro, and Grand Prize of a 2016 Chevy Colorado. A ticket also admits two to the Mammoth Draw event on Saturday, Sept. 10 at the Bradford Community Centre, 125 Simcoe Rd. The evening will include a beef buffet dinner, 6 to 8:30 p.m., a charity casino, dancing, and entertainment by Legends Live tribute artists. Tickets are available at selected retailers, or by calling 905-775-9170. Only 1,700 tickets have been printed—and when they're gone, they're gone!

Letter to the Editor

BREAKING THE SILENCE

To the editor: On June 25, the Bagg family hosted the second annual Break the Silence Golf Day in Memory of Randy Bagg, at the Bradford Highlands Golf Club.

The weather was ideal, with 144 golfers coming out to show their support and to remember Randy, and the day was a resounding success—raising \$11,000 to help fund MOBYSS, the mobile youth walk-in clinic that provides youth-centred mental health care services in York Region and South Simcoe. In a confidential, safe, non-judgemental environment, without the need of an appointment or doctor's referral.

The day could have been possible without the tireless attention and organizational skills of Randy's brothers and sister, Kyle, Sean and Samantha, as well as family friends Bridget Jones-Leonardo. We want to express our sincere gratitude to Brad, Ryan, Adam and all the staff at The Highlands, along with all of our volunteers, and the following businesses and organizations:

Food donations—Olymel L.P., David Roberts Foods, Stewart Foodservices Inc., Sysco Fine Meats.

Hole Sponsors—Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery, Bradford Highlands Golf Club, Bradford Newmarket Overhead Doors, Bradford Rental Sales & Service, Brady's Fuels, Don Cherry's Sports Grill, DM Printing Services Ltd., John Eek & Son Ltd., Fines Carpentry & Contracting, GoodLife Fitness, Rosemarie Hackenberg, J.B. Jones Engineering Ltd., Kent McWatters Welding Ltd., Riel Tire Accessories & Equipment, Riel Equipment, Larry Shier Home Improvements, Sharon, Frank & Jordan Soltz—Soltz Garden Centre, Vanderhulst Fine Woodworking, Zzen Design Build Ltd.

Prize donations—Bamford, Nancy Bateman, Bradford Highlands GC, BWG Minor Hockey Association, Bradford Rental Sales & Service (Hole in One), Roy Chlarot-Todd Pools/Jones Pools, Crabby Joe's Tap & Grill, The Finest Wine Shoppe, GoodLife Fitness, Joanne Gordon, Lebovic Golf Club, Metro Foods, Mill Run Golf Club, Mother Packer's Tea & Coffee, NHL Alumni, Olymel L.P., Cyndy Spiers, Tugling Insurance Brokers (Hole in One), Yogi Bear Camp Resort, Canada's Wonderland, Anonymous.

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Meetings & Announcements

Town Council

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting agendas and minutes are available at:

bradfordwestgwillimbury.civicweb.net

For further information or to request a deputation, please contact the Clerk's Division at 905-775-5366.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole

- Tue. Aug. 2 @ 7:00 p.m. – BWG Library
425 Holland St. W., Zima Room

Board/Committee

Committee of Adjustment

- Wed. Jul. 27 @ 6:30 p.m. – BWG Library
425 Holland St. W., Zima Room

Proclamations

- July 20 – **Columbian Independence Day**
(flag raising July 23 @ 4:00 p.m. at 57 Holland St. E)
- July 28 – August 6 – **Simcoe Pride Week**
(flag raising July 29 @ 1:30 p.m. at 57 Holland St. E)

Council Highlights

Find out what happened at Town of BWG Council meetings.

Visit: www.townofbwg.com/highlights

Part-time Employment Opportunities

- 2016 - AQI07 – Lifeguard/instructor
Closing: August 2, 2016
- 2016 - AQI07 – Assistant Instructor
Closing: August 3, 2016
- 2016 - AQDA07 – Aquatics Attendant
Closing: August 3, 2016

For more on these positions, call 905-775-5366 or visit www.townofbwg.com/careers

BWG Transit announces new stop at Zehrs

BWG Transit



Effective **Tuesday, August 2, 2016**, BWG Transit's Route 2 will stop directly in front of the Zehrs store, entering via Langford Blvd. This new stop was added based on rider demand to increase transit accessibility for shoppers.

The new stop will not affect times at other Route 2 hubs. Revised maps are now available on buses and at all easyPASS sale locations.

facebook.com/betterwaytogo
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NOTICE: Application of Larvicide for Mosquito Control

WHAT:

Each summer, mosquito larvicide pellets are dropped by hand into roadside catch basins to prevent mosquito larvae from developing into potential carriers of West Nile virus.

WHERE:

Urban Bradford from Line 8 to Line 6 and Sideroad 10 to the Holland River, plus the subdivisions of Golfview, Kilkenny Trail, Foster's Forest and Emery Estates.

WHEN:

The program requires three treatments a few weeks apart: round 1 – July 11-15, round 2 – August 1-5, round 3 – August 22-26.

HOW YOU MAY BE AFFECTED:

The larvicide Altosid Pellets (PCP#21809, pellet) and Mosquiron 0.12 CRD (PCP# 31079, ingot) will be placed into catch basins within the above mentioned areas. All applications will be performed by Ministry of Environment & Climate Change licensed applicators. Please drive carefully around staff conducting this work.

CONTACT:

For general inquiries about West Nile virus, call Your Health Connection at 1-877-721-7520. For inquiries about the Town's larvicide program, call Town of BWG Transportation Services at 905-775-5369.

Events & Activities

**THURSDAY
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8:00PM
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SECOND AMENDED

NOTICE of Special Meeting of Council Official Plan Review Project Launch

Pursuant to Subsection 26(4) of the Planning Act, R.S.Q. 1990, c. P-13, as amended

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

You are invited to attend a Special Meeting of Council to provide input as the Town launches its Official Plan Review. While there have been a number of amendments and studies completed in recent years, this is the first time the Town will be reviewing all policies since the last review and update was completed in 2002. Details of the date, time and location of this Special Meeting of Council are provided below:

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 16, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Zima Room
BWG Library & Cultural Centre
(425 Holland St. W)

Under the Planning Act, all municipalities in Ontario are required to have an Official Plan. An Official Plan is a policy document that articulates the goals and objectives needed to manage the physical changes of land uses in a community. Its policies are intended to reflect the desired social and economic outcomes of a community, and their linkage with the natural environment. It is the basis for all land use planning decisions in the Town.

Since the last review and update to the Town's Official Plan there have been a number of changes in Provincial and County land use planning policies. Therefore, the Town's Official Plan needs to be updated to recognize these changes, and to ensure its policies reflect the current and future needs and goals of the community. The review is planned to be conducted in two phases, as below, and the above meeting is the first of many opportunities for the public to contribute to the Official Plan Review.

Phase 1 - Anticipated for completion in Fall of 2016, includes the following items:

- Employment Lands • Downtown Revitalization
- Growth Projections and Housing Mix • Seniors Housing

Phase 2 - Anticipated for completion by the end of 2017, includes the balance of policies, such as:

- Residential Lands • Commercial Lands
- Community Uses • Infrastructure

Any person may attend this Special Meeting to make written or verbal representation in regards to what revisions may be required. Written submissions must be addressed to Council and directed to the Director of Corporate Services / Municipal Clerk, as below.

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
c/o Director of Corporate Services / Municipal Clerk
100 Disette St., Units 7&8, P.O. Box 100
Bradford, ON L3T 2A7
Phone: 905-775-5366
Email: admin@townofbwg.com

The personal information accompanying your submission is being collected under the authority of the Planning Act, and may form part of the record which may be released to the public. If you have any accessibility needs, please advise the Director of Corporate Services / Municipal Clerk, as above, at least one week before the meeting.

Information and updates are available on the Town's Official Plan Review webpage at www.townofbwg.com/PlanBWG. For further information or to be added to the project mailing list, please contact one or both of the following:

- Ryan Windle, Manager of Community Planning,
905-778-2055 x 1401, or via email at rwindle@townofbwg.com.
- Alan Wiebe, Senior Planner, 905-778-2055 x 1403, or via email at awiebe@townofbwg.com.

Dated at the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury on July 21, 2016.
Rebecca Murphy, Director of Corporate Services / Municipal Clerk

SIMCOE ROAD URBANIZATION: PROJECT UPDATE

Simcoe Road Construction Work

The construction along Simcoe Road (Line 6 to Canal Bridge) has moved to the second phase of the project, while maintaining access to local traffic. In this phase, the contractor will complete all of the underground pipes work between Danube Lane and the culvert crossing by the end of September 2016.

To date, the contractor has installed the deep sanitary sewers (from the creek crossing [culvert] to Danube Lane). Following the sanitary work, the contractor plans to install the force mains, watermain, sanitary sewer and storm sewers included in the vicinity of the culvert/creek crossing. The existing culverts used to convey the creek water will be replaced with two large concrete box culverts. The installation of these services and large box culverts will take another five to six weeks to complete. During the time of the culvert installation, Simcoe Road will undergo a day and night road closure for approximately one week. Daily and nightly closures are scheduled between July 25, 2016 and July 29, 2016.

Since the underground works in phase 1 of the project is complete, the section of Simcoe Road from north of Canal bridge to Danube Lane will be paved to base asphalt and curbs installed by July 2016.

Line 5 Construction Work

The construction work along Line 5 is nearing completion with works such as grading, placing topsoil and grass seed, installing appearances inside chambers and other minor works required to complete the requirements of the contract.

Easement Construction Work

Work within the easement (between Simcoe Road and Line 5) has already commenced with material being brought into the easement to create a platform for maintenance vehicles. Over the next few months, the contractor will be conducting approximately 1 kilometer of underground drilling works for the twin forcemain and installation of multiple forcemain chambers within the easement. Although this work is done within an easement and off of the roadway, there will still be construction vehicles leaving and entering the site through Line 5 and Simcoe Road.

On-site Safety & Traffic Control

Detours and ample signage have been posted to advise residents of the various closures and detours. Apart from the requirement of closing Simcoe Road (day and night) for the installation of the box culvert in July 2016 for approximately one week, the contractor has been re-opening Simcoe Road at the end of each day (approximately 5pm) to vehicular traffic. Although the roadway is reduced to one lane, traffic lights have been installed at either side of the work zone to safety convey traffic in the evening, overnight and early morning.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

Marcio Marques, B.Eng., EIT
Project Manager, Capital Projects
Development & Engineering Services
Phone: (905) 778-2055 x 2114
Mobile: (289) 383-6232
Email: m.marques@townofbwg.com

Ainley & Associates Limited

Nathan Dempster, C.E.T.
Senior Field Services Coordinator
Mobile: (705) 441-6160
Email: dempster@ainleygroup.com

Explaining the 2016 assessment

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Bradford West Gwillimbury Council asked MPAC, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation of Ontario, to provide a special workshop for residents, to explain the principles of Current Value Assessment - and the big jump in assessed values of most BWG homes in 2016.

Kelan Jylha, account manager-municipal and stakeholder relations, explained that assessments are carried out on a four-year cycle. Every four years, MPAC determines a new market-based value for each property, which is then phased in over the next four years.

Homeowners have just received notice of their 2016 evaluations, which will be phased in from 2017 to 2020 - a gradual process, Jylha said, because "trying to go from that amount to this amount in one year is a burden on the taxpayer."

BWG residents are looking at an average increase of over 9%, in their assessments.

Jylha noted that a decrease in value is not phased in, but applied immediately in the next tax year - and that anyone with questions about their assessment should contact MPAC, or use the online tool "About My Property" which provides comparators, allowing the user to see assessed values in their neighbourhood.

MPAC is tasked with determining current value assessments and classifications for over 5 million properties. The 2016 assessments were based on a record 300,000 "touch points," Jylha said - data collected from building permits, tax rolls, and actual sales - with more than 10,000 in BWG alone.

The workshop, held on June 28, was attended by about 20 people - six of them members of council, including Mayor Rob Keffeler.

A presentation to the library



BRADFORD TIMES

Bradford West Gwillimbury Council member Ron Orr presented a signed copy of the Chris Hadfield's book, "You Are Here," to the Bradford Public Library and Cultural Centre, on behalf of Council on June 21. He also held up a "selfie," taken with the astronaut and former Commander of the International Space Station, to prove that he really had met Hadfield. Accepting the gift, was the library's Deputy CEO, Nina Cuniff.



Loralea Carruthers, at the new Liberal Hub for York-Simcoe in Queensville on July 11.

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

When Loreale Carruthers ran as the Liberal candidate in York-Simcoe in the 2014 provincial election, she gave incumbent MPP Julia Munro (PC) a run for her money - coming within 4% of a win.

She had a great team, Carruthers says, and not only met people from all walks of life but made new friends and gained new insights into the issues facing residents.

Then, everything seemed to fade away. The East Gwillimbury School

Trustee continued to work with both the provincial and federal Liberal parties, helping to fundraise and canvass for York-Simcoe Federal Liberal candidate Shaun Tanaka and candidates in several other ridings - but as the federal election approached, she says, "We realized how long it took to get back up and rolling."

The riding associations had to look at reconnecting with their volunteers, finding a constituency office, a place to store signs, and locating chairs, tables, "even a refrigerator." Then there was the cost of holding meetings, once or twice a month, in the interim.

The York-Simcoe provincial and federal Liberal riding associations have come up with a solution: A Liberal Hub, located in Queensville.

It's a shared office space - not a constituency office, since neither the provincial nor federal candidates were elected, but a meeting space "to provide the Liberal brand, to have a place where like-minded people can meet, and to provide a way for residents to connect with sitting governments, both the Wynne Liberals at Queen's Park, and Trudeau Liberals in Ottawa, Carruthers says.

Not only do the federal and provincial Liberals hold their monthly

meetings at the Hub, the Young Liberals have free access, using the Hub - which is only a 15 minute drive from Bradford - for their meetings and activities.

The federal Liberals have been hosting public sessions at the Hub on a number of topics, and the provincial Liberals are planning to bring in special speakers, starting in September. The goal is to improve communications, and provide a place where residents can connect.

Carruthers was asked whether a Liberal Hub might be seen as an attempt by the provincial Liberals, as Wynne sinks in popularity polls, to ride on the coat-tails of the federal Liberals and Justin Trudeau.

"It's not riding on the coat-tails," Carruthers insists. "In York-Simcoe, in our associations - the federal and the provincial - there's huge overlap. I think the associations see the shared Liberal values, and it's the same people."

The Hub also provides a place for residents to share their concerns and issues, to connect with each other and with "people who can make a difference," in federal and provincial ministries, putting York-Simcoe on the map.

And it serves another function, Carruthers says: "To me, the biggest thing is we're putting a flag in the ground. We're not going away."

Liberal Hub anchors the brand in York-Simcoe

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News Brief

Simcoe Pride Week in BWG

Simcoe Pride celebrates its five annual Pride Week, July 28-August 6, to promote the vision of a safe and inclusive Simcoe County that supports and unites the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and allied (LGBTIA) community.

Mayor Rob Kefffer and council have proclaimed July 28 to August 6 as Pride Week in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, and will be raising the Rainbow flag at the Courthouse, 57 Holland St. East in Bradford, on

Friday, July 29 at 1:30 p.m.

The rainbow flag represents the diversity of the LGBTIA community.

The town's proclamation notes, "The Pride Week Proclamation and the flying of the rainbow flag are valued recognition of the diversity of our community, honouring the lives and contributions of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities throughout Simcoe County."



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The Balloon Tree blooms at the library

Kids sang along and helped the magic happen, at the To Be Determined Theatre Company's production of *The Balloon Tree*, at the Bradford Public Library, July 13.

Based on the book by Phoebe Gilman, the play invited kids to join in, sing along, choose their favourite balloon colour – and help Princess Leora save her kingdom. It also provided a profound message: "You are the maker of your destiny. You are the one who decides

how this story works out" – just like the Princess, who persevered even when things were dark, by looking at the stars.

Coming up at the Library, 425 Holland St. West in Bradford:

- There is still time to sign up for the **TD Summer Reading Club** – a club that encourages kids to read, over the summer months, with free events, activities and prizes! This year, the Reading Club has a wild jungle theme.

- **Cake Decorating for**

Kids, ages 6 to 11, with Bonnie Aguilar of Sweet B's. \$17 per child, to take home a 6" decorated cake! July 22, 2-3 p.m. – Minion Cake. August 12, 2-3 p.m. – Under the Sea Cake. Pre-register.

- **Harry Potter Bash**, for all those waiting for the release of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* – dress up and drop in to the Library on Wednesday, July 27 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., for magical games, crafts and treats. Free! There will be a Costume Contest at 2:30 p.m. Dress up

as your favourite Harry Potter character to enter.

- **ZooTek Meet ZooTek's** friendly animals, exotic and native, at the library on Wednesday, August 3, with shows at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 per child – accompanying adults are free! Purchase in advance from Borrower Services.

- **Family Pictionary** Come to a Family Pictionary on Thursday, August 4 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., for ages 4 and up. Crafts, games and fun, \$3 per child. Pre-register at the library.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Princes Lorea and the Magician – in the *To Be Determined Theatre Company* presentation of *The Balloon Tree*, at the Public Library in Bradford.

Strategic Plan maps out the future of the library

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library & Cultural Centre has presented its new Strategic Plan and Vision, that will set the direction of library services over the next five years, from 2016 to 2020.

The over-arching vision sees the library offering "diverse collections, accessible technology... and dynamic, interactive spaces," as well as enriching cultural experiences in the community.

Five key strategic directions have been identified.

- **Strengthen the Library's presence and connectedness.** This will include enhanced marketing and public relations, including use of social media, and stronger partnerships with the community to offer innovative programming both on and off site. Programs and volunteer opportunities will be developed, for teens, adults and seniors, as the library reaches out in a way that "enriches, engages and empowers the lives of BWG residents."

- **Design and develop innovative, creative and collaborative spaces.** The library will be looking at ways to become more of a community hub – looking at initiatives that include a new Development



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library & Cultural Centre occupies a dramatic space; now a new strategic plan hopes to make it the hub of the community.

Centre, repurposing of the Computer Lab, and Introducing Maker-Creator culture. The goal is to make the library a destination, both physically and virtually.

- **Enhance and promote the library's collections and cultural offerings.** The library will pursue the building of accessible collections, services and programs that reflect and respond to a diverse and multicultural community – including enhanced multimedia and multilingual offerings, more educational resources, more local history and genealogy, and more participation in arts and culture initiatives.

- **Build the library's technology capacity.** There is a need to create a "robust technology infrastructure" that will extend the reach of the library, provide support

for residents, and encourage "digital literacy."

- **Commit to exemplary services, in daily operations, through a staff that is "informed, engaged and empowered to deliver high quality service to the community."**

As the town continues to grow – from the current population of 31,000 to over 50,000 by 2031 – the library is positioning itself to meet that future need.

"The development of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan has been a collaborative effort," says Library Board Chair Mills Calder. "We thank the members of the community, the Library Board, and BWGPL staff who have contributed to this process with your insights, feedback and suggestions."

For more information, see www.bradford.library.on.ca.

News Brief

Movies Under the Stars

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury presents *Movies Under the Stars* – a series of free family-friendly movies, sponsored by Summerlin Dental Care, screened outdoors at the BWG Public Library & Cultural Centre on

Thursday evenings during the summer. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and snacks to enjoy.

- **Life and Stitch (PG)**, on July 28.
- **Goosebumps (PG)**, on August 11.

- **The Good Dinosaur (PG)** on August 25.

Shows begin at dusk. For more information, contact Bethany Kubonika, 905-775-5359 ext. 5102 or bkubonika@townofbwg.com

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Saying goodbye to Gary's Auto

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

On May 27, Gary's Auto officially closed its doors.

It was a tough decision for Gary Hrynuk and wife Deb, after more than two decades of providing automotive services to the community. But it was time - especially with an ongoing shortage of trained mechanics, rising costs, and increasingly more complex vehicles and engines, a complexity that makes it difficult for young people to enter the automotive sector, and more costly to open a service centre.

Aluminum bodied trucks, for example. "Do you know how much it takes for a body shop to set up?" Gary demands. It requires certification in aluminum welding, a separate room to carry out the work - "and there's not the return." The current flat rate system, that estimates the time it should take to repair a problem and the fee, no longer reflects the reality of today's vehicles.

With all of the challenges, he acknowledges, "in the grand scheme of things, you're better off to work at Honda, on the assembly line... People in my age group - we're retiring, and there's not much behind."

He's very aware of the challenges facing young people. For years, Hrynuk was involved in OYAP, the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, and he is a long-time supporter of high school co-op programs, persuading the schools to institute a full-day placement for auto mechanics, to provide a real-world learning experience.

Some employees see co-op as little more than an expense: to show a student how to repair a vehicle can turn a two-hour job into four hours or more, and "nobody's reimbursing the business for it." Hrynuk always viewed it differently: he saw co-op students "as potential employees that we could help train our way. We're extremely proud

of everyone we put through, that got their licence" - even when a student left to take up a position elsewhere. "The fact that what we taught them, another employer saw the quality of that person... No regrets."

What will attract young people to the automotive sector, and keep them there? A fair rate of return, Hrynuk says. Automotive used to be the "last chance" for kids who couldn't make it elsewhere. "It's not that way any more. If you have a \$50,000 to \$80,000 vehicle, are you going to entrust it to a Grade 10 drop out?"

Gary Hrynuk has his certification as a Class A Mechanic, and a host of other certifications and diplomas, keeping up his training to keep up with the industry. He had an early introduction to the trade: parents Alex and Erna Hrynuk not only farmed four acres in the Holland Marsh, they opened a one-bay service centre and Texaco gas station at the corner of Canal Rd. and Simcoe Rd.

That's where Gary learned the importance of customer service - a lesson that has served him well, all these years.

Gary's Auto Service opened in 1992, at 170 Artesian Industrial Parkway. The business has always offered general automotive repairs, Propane vehicle servicing and automotive electronics, and top-notch, personalized customer service.

Gary, who grew up in Bradford, admits, "I enjoyed renewing old relationships... People coming in to chat. I enjoyed that part."

The community benefited in other ways. Gary, who played hockey at the arena, and baseball on the diamonds when he was growing up, saw starting his own business as an opportunity to "give back" to his community. Not only are he and Deb members of the Bradford Lions Club, Gary's Auto has supported minor sports, the Helping Hand Food Bank, high school scholarships and awards, and just about every



Gary and Deb Hrynuk, after Gary's Auto, in Bradford.

golf tournament and fundraiser that has come asking for help.

Initially, the Hrynuk's had hoped to sell the business. "We were looking for someone who would hopefully carry on our philosophy," says Gary. "We're certainly grateful to our customers, who have spanned generations.

Unable to find the right

buyer, they decided to close, selling off the equipment, and looking at retirement.

Gary isn't sure what the future will hold - "I want to do something, whether it's cutting grass at a golf course..." - but whatever the Hrynuk's decide, it will include volunteer service.

As Deb notes, "We haven't stopped running since we closed the doors."

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Lions donate to Army Cadets



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

From left, Bradford Lions Jim Stykhus, Reg Hipwell and Deb Hrynuk, presenting cheque to Capt. Phil Lusk, Commanding Officer of Queens York Rangers Army Cadet Corps, as Lions Bob Pegge and Gary Hrynuk look on. The Bradford Lions Club supports a wide range of causes - from its \$250,000 pledge for the Lions Aquatics Centre at the BWG Leisure Centre, to support for minor sports, Southlake Regional Health Centre, the BWG Santa Claus Parade, Helping Hand Food Bank, Scouts and Guides, BWG Community Dinners, school bursaries and awards, Dog Guides, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, and individuals with disabilities within the community. On July 14, the Lions presented a cheque for \$500 to the Queens York Rangers cadet program. Approximately 10 Bradford West Gwillimbury youth between the ages of 13 and 18 are members of the Queens York Rangers 2799 Army Cadet Corps, which meets during the school year at the Armoury in Aurora. Right now, the Cadet program is on break - with approximately 72 of the young participants attending Cadet camps.

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From Brownie Bonanza, to Caribbean Day

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

Classic chocolate chip brownies. Brownies with a Cause — blondies, pineapple, double, butterscotch, traditional — raising funds for a service trip to Dominican. Brownie buttertarts.

July 2 saw the first-ever Brownie Bonanza Festival at the Bradford Farmers' Market. A number of vendors brought their best brownie recipes to the table, in addition to the fresh local produce, eggs, dairy and cheese, preserves, maple products, European Meat and more, available every week.

Megan Vroom baked 'Brownies with a Cause', fundraising for a Mission trip to Dominican with her school, the Toronto District Christian High School. The trip takes place in February 2017, when Vroom and classmates will head to the island for two months of service, working with missionaries — but first, she has to raise \$4,500 to cover the cost.

Her favourite brownie recipe? "I personally like the blondies."

At noon, a panel of judges — Mayor Rob Keffer, Councillor Peter Ferragine, Scarabeo Entertainment entrepreneur Jackie Kozak, and Lauren — sampled the eight entries in the brownie competition, and awarded the prize for the Best



Brownie competition judges, from left, Jackie Kozak, Mayor Rob Keffer, and Lauren, congratulate the winner, Jenn Singh, as Councillor Peter Ferragine — also a judge — adds his congratulations.

Brownie to Jenn Singh whose gooey, chocolate delight won rave reviews, in terms of taste, texture and presentation.

"To me, that's what a brownie is," said Mayor Keffer. "It was moist, it was tasty, it was well-presented" — although the unique double-chocolate brownie of Paulette Wade was a close second.

"We really had a tough choice,"

said the Mayor. "We look forward to next year — if not sooner."

The Bradford Farmers' Market meets every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside the library, 425 Holland St. West in Bradford. This Saturday is Caribbean Day, July 23. Get ready for the sound of the steel drums, and a taste of the Islands.

BioBlitz at Scanlon



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Explorers Micaya and Ashley get up close to a Wood Turtle at the Scanlon Creek BioBlitz 'Turtle Talk' session, presented by Scales Nature Park. More than 60 nature-lovers, specialists and volunteer "citizen scientists" participated in the second-annual Scanlon Creek BioBlitz, hosted by the Lakes Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and Friends of Scanlon Creek. The one-day BioBlitz sent teams out into the forests, meadows and wetlands of Scanlon, to identify plants, insects, birds and animals. Over 400 species were recorded — including 160 insects and spiders, 138 plants, 81 birds, nine reptiles and amphibians, 14 mammals, and eight species of fish. New to the list this year: the Eastern Wood Pewee, a bird species of "special concern"; the tree-nesting Wood Duck, and the Wood Frog, known for its ability to survive in freezing temperatures.

Neema Children's Choir at the market



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

The Bradford Farmers' Market welcomed some special visitors on July 16. The Neema Children's Choir from Uganda, in Africa, put on a high-energy performance, with the help of Scarabeo Entertainment. The youth choir is raising money for the Neema Child Project, that provides Ugandan children with food, water, clothing, housing, health care and education — helping to build leaders who will help their country out of poverty. For more information see neemachildproject.org. The Choir is currently on its "Sound of Hope" tour, and will be in Canada for approximately five weeks, performing at local churches and other venues, sharing the joy of music and dance. The Bradford Farmers' Market made a \$100 donation to the group, and hope to invite the choir back for the Caribbean Day festivities on July 23, and the Corn Roast & Festival on August 13.

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Police Briefs

Obstruct police

Innisfil – Shortly before 6 p.m. on July 17, Police were called to an ATV crash at St. John's Rd. and the 7th Line in Alcona. The ATV ran into a ditch and struck a tree. Witnesses told police that the driver had been injured. A man approached an officer, claiming to be the driver – but police subsequently learned that the real driver had been taken to hospital for treatment of minor injuries. The 25-year-old man who made the false claim has been charged with Obstruct Police; he has a court date in September.

Threaten death

Bradford – South Simcoe Police were called to a Bradford plaza on July 17, after a woman was nearly struck by a car. The victim told officers that she saw her ex-boyfriend in a store, where he made threats to harm her. When she walked out into the parking lot, he drove his car directly at her, at a high rate of speed. She was able to jump out of the way, and the man fled the scene. A 23-year-old Bradford male has been charged with Dangerous Driving and Threaten Death; he was released with an August Court date, and conditions that include staying away from the victim.

Motorcycle collision

Innisfil – On July 15 at 2:10 a.m., a 36-year-old Innisfil male was riding his motorcycle southbound on 10 Sideroad, near the 9th Line of Innisfil, when he was rear-ended by a Honda Civic, driven by a 17-year-old Innisfil youth. The motorcyclist was thrown from the bike, suffering leg and ankle injuries; he was transported to a local hospital. The driver of the Honda told police that he had fallen asleep behind the wheel; he has been charged with Careless Driving under the Highway Traffic Act. Police remind motorists to pull over when they feel tired or sleepy. Find a parking lot, restaurant, or other safe location to stop – do not put yourself or others at risk.

Youths face charges

Innisfil – Shortly after midnight, on July 14, an officer on patrol observed a vehicle in Alcona, driving without headlights. He stopped the vehicle behind a local plaza – at which time the 17-year-old driver fled the scene, leaving his 5 passengers to face police. The five remaining youths, ages 16-17, were found with marijuana and open liquor. They were arrested for Possession of a controlled substance and liquor offences, and released to their parents. Further investigation identified the driver, who was in violation of his G1 licence conditions. He was charged with various traffic offences.

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POSTMEDIA

The **Bradford Times**

Simcoe Dance Academy top studio at Nationals

Bradford - Back in April, Simcoe Dance Academy sent a competition team to the Thunderstruck Regional Dance competition in Barrie. Competing against dancers from 6 other studios, Simcoe Dance Academy won Top Studio - and the entire team qualified for the Nationals, in Mont Tremblant, Quebec.

On June 30, the team travelled to Mont Tremblant, where they competed against 17 other studios from across Canada. Once again, Simcoe Dance Academy won Top Studio, after judges added up the points earned in individual competition, and the Battle of the Stars.

Congratulations to:
Petite Novice Solo - Let It Be
Leya Hill 1st

Petite Novice Duet/Trio -
Don't Wanna Dance Alone 2nd,
Petite Duet/Trio - Black Bird
1st, Dancin' by Myself 2nd, Our
Lips are Sealed 3rd

Petite Small Group - Home
1st, Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo 2nd,
Fenkey Monkey 3rd
Jr. Duet/Trio - Somewhere
Only We Know 1st, Feet to the
Sky 2nd

Jr. Small Group - Men of Snow
3rd

Jr. Large Group - The Vicious
Circle 2nd

Sc. Duet/Trio - Where has Your



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Simcoe Dance Academy's winning team brought home National Trophies to Bradford, Ont. on Sunday June 12, 2016.

Body Been? 1st, River Lea 2nd
Sc. Small Group - For the Night
1st

Teen Solo (age 12) - Charisma
Stewart 1st, Cameron Troper
2nd, Natalie Kergen 3rd

Teen Solo (age 14) - Nadia
Ruffieux 1st

Teen Duet/Trio - Close Your
Eyes 2nd

Teen Small Group - The Pain
that Weights Her 1st, Aqua Vitae
3rd

Teen Large Group - End of
Time 2nd

Teen Line - The Tango 3rd

Senior Solo - Shuleria Degno
2nd

Students were also able to participate in Master classes, a Flash
Mob, and the opening number
for the Battle of the Stars - and
Simcoe Dance Academy has
been invited to participate in the

2016 Toronto International Youth
Dance Festival, taking place at
Nathan Phillips Square on Friday,
August 5 from 5 to 9 p.m.

Simcoe Dance Academy is
located at 442 Holland St. West,
Unit 6 (Hakim Optical Plaza); for
information call 905-251-1110.

BUC Vacation Bible School

Bradford United Church is holding a Vacation Bible School, "Courageous Kids Stepping Out for Jesus", for ages 6 to 13. Each day, from Monday, July 25 to Friday, July 29, from 8:45 a.m. to noon, the Courageous Kids will go back in time to a Biblical site - Queen Esther's Palace, the Lion's Den with Daniel, the Nile River with Miriam and Moses, to the battlefield of David and Goliath, and the temple of King Josiah. It's a week filled with bible stories and skits, songs, crafts and games, only \$15 per child, at the church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. Please pre-register by calling 905-775-7268.



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Tuesday August 23, 6:30 - 9:00pm
Wednesday August 30, 6:30 - 9:00pm**

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www.simcoedanceacademy.ca

Dancing the night away at Hola Latin Fiesta

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

With less than a week to go before The Latin Group Inc.'s inaugural Hola Latin Fiesta in Bradford, there was good news for organizers - the festival celebrating Latin culture had sold out.

The Portuguese Cultural Centre was packed with party-goers on July 16. They came from as far away as Toronto and Barrie - some of them members of the Instituto Latin Organization that started up last year with a similar goal: to celebrate Latin music, culture and heritage, and unite Simcoe County's Latin communities.

Guests came to enjoy authentic cuisine available from Gourmet Gringos and Viva Mexico, enjoy the music played by a DJ, and later in the evening, by Pablo Terry and his *Sol de Cuba* band - and dance the night away.

The Portuguese Cultural Centre was decorated with the flags and colours of many Latin Countries, and there were numerous door prizes to be won, including a \$1500 voucher towards a Caribbean vacation, donated by Verona Travel, and the prize of a diamond pendant, donated by Peter Dykile and Bradford Jewellery & Gems, for Most Improved Dancer.

"It's fantastic here tonight," said Michael Gutta of Ad-Dictive Design & Promotion, presenting sponsors. "I hope everybody has



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Helping to launch the first Hola Latin Fiesta, from left, Amanda and Peter Ferragine, Peter Dykile Jr., Jean and Mayor Rob Keffer, TLG Inc. founders Gustavo Salinas and his sister Adriana McNeill Salinas, Rana and Raj Sandhu, Mark and Janice Contois at the Portuguese Cultural Centre.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Linda Martinez of Viva Mexico made over 500 tamales, each wrapped in corn husks.

a great time, and that this is the first of many!"

Tickets were only \$20 each, for the evening of fun, Latin-style - one reason they sold



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Gustavo Salinas, a founding member of The Latin Group, brought his dancers to get everyone on the dance floor.

out early. A portion of the proceeds will go to El Sembrador, a ministry for Agricultural Guest Workers in BWG and the Holland Marsh.

Ready for Ribfest

Continued From Page 1

Gates are open from noon to midnight on Friday (welcome ceremonies at 6:45 p.m.); 11 a.m. to midnight on Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. Friday is Country Day, featuring Shanya Lynn Dawson, Young Country, and CMA Male Vocalist nominee Marshall Dene. Saturday, the focus is on Rock 'n Roll, including a Bradford Idol Reunion at 3 p.m., The Unruly Gentleman's Club at 4 p.m., Green River Revival, and headline T21 elevation. Sunday is Family Day, featuring The Sound Pilots, The

Simple Tones and a Johnny Cash Tribute.

New this year: Hot air balloon rides, sponsored by Wilson Verduyn of Re/MAX, from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday (weather permitting), and Destiny World Wrestling with stars like Randy Reign, at 2 p.m. on Sunday. The Rib-eating contest takes place at 2 p.m. on Saturday - and awards for Best Ribs will be announced at 4:45 p.m. on Sunday.

The BWG Events Group is a not-for-profit organization. Bradford Ribfest will raise money for President's Choice Children's Charities.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Destiny World Wrestling star Randy Reign gets BWG Events Group president Ricky Brooks in a headlock.

9th Line reunion



PAUL NOVODAR/PHOTO

Rick Brooks, president of the BWG Events Group, at left, with members of 9th Line. Thirty-five years ago, a group of students at Bradford District High School got together as a band, called 9th Line. They'll be reuniting to play at this year's Bradford Ribfest. Catch them on stage at 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 23.

News Brief

To mark Colombian Independence Day, July 20, and recognize the

Colombian flag-raising

contributions of Canadians of Colombian descent, there will be a flag-raising at the

Bradford Courthouse, 57 Holland St. East, on Saturday, July 23 at 4 p.m.

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A summer of festivals

Georgian Bay Steam Show

The Georgian Bay Steam Show returns to Cookstown on the August Civic Weekend, July 29-31 and August 1. The 51st annual Show and Family Farm Demonstration will feature Massey Harris Ferguson tractors, machinery and memorabilia. Includes displays, demonstrations of threshing and horse-drawn plowing, sheep-shearing, blacksmithing, Steam Engines and models, Members' Tractor Pulls, and on Sunday, July 31, starting at 6 p.m. the OTTPA (Ontario Truck and Tractor Pullers Association) Modified Truck and Tractor Pull, vintage Farming, Modified Farm Tractors, Stock, Modified, Pro Street Diesel 4x4 trucks, and Hot Stock 4 x 4 trucks. Parking is free. Admission is \$8 on Friday and Monday, \$10 on Saturday and Sunday, free for accompanied children under 12. No dogs or bicycles, please. For more information, see www.steamshow.ca

Kemperfest 2016

Brian's waterfront festival of Arts and Crafts returns, July

29-August 10 on Kemperfest Bay. Over 300 arts and crafts vendors in this juried show, featuring pottery, ceramics, clothing and accessories, Jewellery, fine art, glass, metal, photography, sculpture, hand-made soaps and candles, wood-working and more. The Barrie Optimist Club Antique & Collectible Show returns, with 40 exhibitors – and there will be plenty of food, fun, a beer tent, and live music, most of it free. Cover charge of \$10 after 5 p.m., to hear Coconut Navy, Paper Bird, and Lighthouse (yes-the iconic band!) on Friday evening after 5 p.m., The Dock House Band, Memphis Mudd and Five Man Electrical Band on Saturday evening; and The Bare Back Riders, North of Nashville Star Singer Winner, and Cold Creek Country on Sunday evening. Arts & crafts exhibits are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 30-Aug. 1.

Heritage Music Festival

Once known as Shelburne's Fiddle Fest, the Heritage Music Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Shelburne, will be taking place August 3 to

7 at the Dufferin Recreation Complex. Line-up includes Next Generation Leahy on Stage at 7 p.m. on Aug. 4; the 66th Canadian Open Fiddle Championship Playdowns from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, August 5 – with Juno Award winner Jim Cuddy on stage on Friday evening; and the Fiddle Championship Finale on Saturday. For information see HeritageMusicFestival.com

Alliston Potato Festival

The 43rd annual Alliston Potato Festival takes place Aug. 5-7, and kicks off with the Potato Fest Parade, 7 p.m. on Friday – followed by a Texas Hold'em Tourney at the Alliston Memorial Arena. Saturday's events include the street festival, with vendors and buskers – and at the Fairgrounds, a midway, beer garden and range of activities that include Bingo, Creature Quest, Belly dancing, Westling from 4 to 6 p.m., and more. Sunday at the Fairgrounds offers activities ranging from the Baby Show 10 a.m., to Magical Duda, and a Stunt Dog Show. For the complete list,

see allistontopotatofestival.com Admission to the Fairgrounds is \$5 per day. Seniors \$3, accompanied children under 11 free.

SCPA 104th Annual Plowing Match

The Simcoe County Plowmen's Association 104th annual Plowing Match and Antique display will take place Saturday, August 20 at the farm of Brian & Jenn Fieldhouse and Family, 3399 County Rd. 27 in Bradford West Gwillimbury (just north of Line 8). Includes a Horseshoe Tournament, Antique plowing, horse plowing, conventional and reversible plowing matches. For more information contact Barry DeGeer, 705-734-5193.

Carrotfest!

Bradford's Carrotfest, one of the top 100 Festivals in Ontario – and #1 on WestJet's list – returns August 19-21. Twelve Brothers Midway opens at 11 a.m. on Friday, with Opening Ceremonies at the main stage on Simcoe Rd. at 6 p.m. – followed by Feverish



MURIAN KING/BRADFORD TIMES
Modified tractor in an OTTPA Truck and Tractor Pull at the Georgian Bay Steam Show in Cookstown, Ont.

Lemons, and Jagger Tanner Band. Saturday is Carrotfest's big day – starting at 9 a.m. with the CarrotFast Run at the Bob Fallis Sports Complex, SSB Carrot Slam 3 on Basketball Tourney, Enbridge Pancake Breakfast raising money for Minor Hockey, and vendors, buskers and entertainment on Holland St. There will be live entertainment on the main stage all day, extrication demonstrations by the Fire Dept. at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., a Beer Garden open at

11 a.m., free wrestling at the Community Centre at 11:30 a.m., Ontario Dock Dogs competition all day. Quest for the Cup wrestling at 6:30 p.m. (paid admission), Jagger Sports BMX Stunt Show at 6:30 p.m., Flaming Carrot Fire Show at 8 p.m., music by KISS tribute Destroyer, and Hearafter. Sunday events include the 10th annual Family Fun Fest at the Lions Park, 12-4 p.m. – with FREE games, prizes and food. For details, see www.carrotfest.ca

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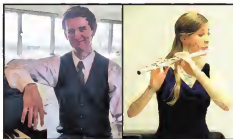
Prices & Specifications are Subject to Change without Notice. Artist Conception. I.R.G.C.



Beer and Bach

Bradford - Coming up this Saturday: "Beer and Bach" - a lecture-recital featuring pianist Vladimir Soloviev and flautist Catherine Willshire, discussing the meaning of Bach and classical music, in a community setting with a cash bar. At Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St., Saturday, July 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets are only \$10.

Vladimir Soloviev completed his undergrad degree at Western University, where he twice won the Pattison Competition, and took second place in the London Music Scholarship Foundation competition. He completed a Master's degree at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and has since moved back to Toronto, where he has made classical music his mission. With a versatile repertoire, stretching from Johann Sebastian Bach to contemporary composers,



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Pianist Vladimir Soloviev and flautist Catherine Willshire will be performing in Bradford on July 23.

he is active as a soloist, chamber musician and educator.

Catherine Willshire took a BA in Music from Western University, her Licence de musique et muséologie from the University of Strasbourg in France, and a Maîtrise de Musicologie at the Université Paris-Sorbonne, where she was First Flute with the Orchestre Symphonique

Interuniversitaire de Paris. She is currently completing her Masters of Communication and Culture at York University, and has performed with a number of flute choirs and quartets.

Tickets for Beer and Bach are available at Nancy's Nifty Nook, Evans DeVries Higgins, or contact 905-751-5335 or revknean@gmail.com.

Make someone smile in Bradford

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Teleflora is partnering with florists across the country, to celebrate Make Someone Smile Week, July 17-23 - delivering over 30,000 Be Happy® Bouquets to shut-ins, residents of nursing homes, hospital patients, kids in foster care, anyone who would be cheered by receiving a bouquet of white and yellow daisies, and yellow roses, arranged in a Smiley-Face mug.

This is the 16th year for the coast-to-coast Make Someone Smile Week, but the first year that Linda's Floral Design in Bradford has participated.

Owner Linda Donaher will be delivering 45 to 48 of the cheerful bouquets, to residents at Bradford Valley Care Community centre who "need a smile," and to participants at CHATS



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Linda Donaher, left, and Kim Rodger work on Be Happy Bouquets for Make Someone Smile Week in Bradford.

(Community & Home Assistance to Seniors') Day Program on Tuesdays.

"Teleflora gives us the mugs," says Donaher, but she donates the flowers and the time it takes to assemble the bouquets, "and then we're going to deliver them." Donaher and helper

Kim Rodgers set up an assembly line to get the bouquets ready for the July 19 delivery, to bring smiles to the community. Donaher herself was smiling as she worked. "It's just a great idea by Teleflora. I'm sure it will go over very well. They say 'put it forward'."



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Bradford Board of Trade Appreciation Barbecue at the Millennium Clock Tower.

Community Appreciation Barbecue, with the BBT

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Wayne Jones DJ Services provided the music, Smooches Cakery baked 250 mini-cupcakes, St. Louis Bar & Grill stood behind the grill preparing hamburgers and sausages, and CountryStyle/Mr. Sub brought the drinks - everything was in place for another successful Bradford Board of Trade Appreciation BBQ, July 15 in front of the Treasury Building.

That's when Mother Nature threw the Board of Trade a curveball.

The weather report

had called for "scattered showers" later in the afternoon - not for the torrential downpours and gusting winds that swept through Bradford around 1 p.m.

But Board of Trade members, and visitors that included Treblemakers' Academy summer campers and Miss Minerva's Day Care kids, took shelter under the tents and in the Treasury Building itself - and, as BBT Chief Administrative Officer Tricia Barrett-Butler noted, the wet weather didn't dampen anyone's spirits.



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

St. Louis Bar & Grill, at the grill.

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'Summer Olympics' at the pool

Bradford Minor Softball... at bat!

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

June was an active month in Bradford West Gwillimbury.

June 4 was National National Health and Fitness Day, when the Bradford West Gwillimbury Leisure Centre offered free fitness classes - including AquaFit in the Lions Aquatics Centre, and Bootcamp, Yoga, Zumba and Tai Chi outdoors on the grassy area beside the BWG Public Library.

On June 11, the town's Active Transportation and Recreation Committee invited residents to 'Walk the Spine' of Bradford - joining committee members and leisure services staff for a hike on the town's urban trails.

And on June 12, Trails Day, the Mayor's Hike for Health took place at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area, north of Bradford.

One of the best definitions we have of 'Active Transportation' is any form of human-powered transportation," said Councillor Gary Baynes, chair of the committee. At the launch of the Walk the Spine event, Baynes noted that the town supports



MURRAY KUNG/BRADFORD TIMES

Residents join Councillors Raj Sandhu, Ron Orr, Deputy Mayor James Leduc and Councillor Gary Baynes, chair of the active transportation and recreation committee, to Walk the Spine of Bradford on June 11.

fitness, and healthy lifestyles.

"One way to achieve this is walking, through the trails." There are 35 km. of trails through Bradford - including roads and sidewalks - and there is a plan to connect the trail system, but "it takes time and money," Baynes

said. In the meantime, he said, "We encourage people to use everything we've got here in town" - from the trails and parks, to the Leisure Centre.

Coming up at the Leisure Centre this month: Summer Olympics at the Bradford

Lions Aquatics Centre.

It's an afternoon of free Leisure Swimming at the Centre's pools on Thursday, July 28, from 2 to 4 p.m., sponsored by Bradford Orthodontics. The BWG Leisure Centre is located at 471 West Park Ave. in Bradford.

T-BALL DIVISION

July 4 Elliot's Towing vs. Royalty Stone Inc. Royalty Stone's Owen P. had strong hitting, going 3 for 3 and scoring each time. Marek D. had super pitching, and grabbed all the grounders; co-captain Isabella B. was a great defensive game.

July 7, Kidger vs. MFC Landscape Contracting. Reyer, Luca and Tyler sent the ball flying for MFC Landscape; Sandro and Willis speed and agility brought lots of runs, awesome work by Julian as pitcher, and Antonio and Colby back-catching.

ATOM DIVISION

July 5, Robert W. Ratusny Law - 7, Robin Evans Real Estate - 5. Robert Ratusny Law had great hits from Al. Marc and Joaquin, awesome hustle from Kiera, Reilly and William, super hits and base-running by Devon and Caleb in an amazing game. Robin Evans Real Estate had great hitting in this close match, with everyone making contact. Adam D. went 2 for 2, with 2 runs scored; Anthony C. and Brody B. were great at bat, Fre-

derick D. had a great defensive stop at 3rd base. Keep up the great work!

July 5, Buck Alley Cruisers - 17, Carron Farms - 3. Cruisers had an all-round great game, with solid defence and excellent plays by Sebastian D., Zukhai F. and Michael M. for outs, and perfect at-bats from Claire B., Alexis L. and Silvio R., who contributed 4 key hits.

July 5, Zoom Security - 14, Bradford Lions Club - 9. Jack C. had an incredible double play. Daniele C. had 2 grand slams and William T. made a beautiful play at First Base, for Zoom.

MITE DIVISION

July 6, Bellamy Sports - 17, Rebecca Doner - 16. Bellamy had great hits from Justin M., Max G. and Michael M. who hit a Grand Slam in this close game.

SQUIRT DIVISION

July 6, Robert Ratusny Law - 17, Vince's Market - 8. Alex S. was 2 for 2 with 2 doubles, and James R. was 2-2, with a home run, for Robert Ratusny Law. Kaleb C. pitched two strong innings, giving up a single run.

Charity barbecue at Bradford Greenhouses



MURRAY KUNG/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Chef Trevor Auton cooks up hot dogs for Isy, 10, and Nate, 8, at Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery just north of pool on June 26. Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery held a charity barbecue at its Bradford location, raising funds for The Children's Wish Foundation. On June 25 and 26, staff served up hot dogs donated by M & M Food Market in Alcona, for donations to Children's Wish - an organization that has been granting the wishes of seriously ill children since 1985. The charity barbecue raised \$250 for Children's Wish. It was all part of Bradford Greenhouses' 31st anniversary celebration.

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Community Listings

THURS., JULY 21

MUSIC IN THE PARK: On the grassy area outside the Bradford Public Library, 425 Holland St. West, Youth performers from the York Simcoe Youth Music Festival at 6:30 p.m.; headliner The Rattles (a Beatles tribute band) at 7:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Weather permitting; no rain date.

FRI., JULY 22

BRADFORD RIBFEST: Ribfest returns to the open area in front of Zehrs Market, 500 Holland St. West, Bradford, July 22-24. Free fabulous ribbers - including new entry, The Pig Kahuna - plus midway, children's PlayZone, marketplace, and live entertainment, with Marshall Dene on Friday, 12:00-1:00 on Saturday, and a Johnny Cash Tribute on Sunday. Admission \$2. Free for kids under 11. Fundraiser for President's Choice Children's Charity. See bwegvestgroupp.org

SAT., JULY 23

BEER AND BACK: Lecture and recital at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. with pianist Vladimir Soloviev and pianist Catherine Willshire. Tickets only \$10 available at Nancy's Nifty Nook, Evans deVries Higgins law office, or call 905-751-5335, 7 p.m.

TREASURE SALE: Bradford United Church holds another Treasure Sale. Clothes donated from attics, garages, closets and cupboards can be yours for a donation to the church, 8 to 11 a.m. Hold your own yard sale - tables only \$15; call 905-775-

7268 to reserve.

CARIBBEAN DAY: At the Bradford Farmers' Market, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bradford Library, 425 Holland St. West. Fresh produce, fresh bakings, crafts, preserves, and Caribbean music!

EUCHRE PARTY: Bradford United Church, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. \$10 per person at the door, 66 Barrie St., for refreshments, prizes and a social afternoon of cards. All welcome.

EASY COOKING WITH HERBS: Workshop presented by the Innisfil Seed Library at the Lakeshore Branch in Alcona, starting at 11 a.m. Free, but please pre-register.

AUTHOR READING AT THE MUSEUM: Malcolm Watts, author of *Reflections from Shadow*, is the guest speaker at the Elman W. Campbell Museum, 134 Main St. West in Newmarket, 1 p.m. Free but RSVP to 905-953-5314.

FIA'S HAIR BRAIDS



WANT YOUR EVENT INCLUDED? SEND US YOUR INFO

Listings are published as space allows each week.

E-mail listings to mking@postmedia.com. Deadline for inclusion in Thursday's paper is Tuesday at 10 a.m. Listings of 50 words or less must be sent as a text document or in the body of an e-mail.

FUNDRAISER: At Wishing Well Sanctuary, 2710 Line 10 B/W, 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. Fareeha Chaudhry will create open braids for \$5, braids for \$10 or braided updo's for \$20, with proceeds going to Ronald McDonald House and Wishing Well Sanctuary. Call 1-647-857-3451 or email fhahyiah@icloud.com to make an appointment.

THE LIVING STARS: Fun family event at New Life Fellowship Baptist church, 6881 Yonge St. in Innisfil, 7 to 9 p.m.

Sharing a Love of Jesus through Puppetry, Music, Dance and Testimony, presented by Christian Young People from Lakewood United Methodist Church in Michigan.

THURS., JULY 28

MOVIES UNDER THE STARS: Lilo and Stitch, at the grassy area outside the Bradford Public Library, 425 Holland St. West, at dusk, Free - bring your own lawn chair and blanket.

Perogy dinner

MURRAY KING/BRADFORD TIMES



St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church is hosting another great fundraising Perogy Dinner on Saturday, July 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. A dinner of perogies, sausage or meat on a stick, salad and dessert, tea or coffee, is available for \$10-\$12 for a small, regular or large dinner. Side orders of torscht, sausage and cabbage rolls are also available for a nominal amount. Pay at the door, at 721 Simcoe Road. Note: Simcoe Rd. may be open from the 6th line, to access the church drive slowly, and obey all flagmen when construction is active.

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Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St.,
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Sunday School Available
www.bradfordunited.com

St. John's Presbyterian
2940 - 10th Side Road
(8th Line & Midwestern St.)
905-775-7274
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery provided.
stjohnspresbyterian.ca

Bradford Community Church
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Bradford Islamic Community Centre
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7:30 pm Wed. - Prayer - Live Study

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www.greaterlifecommunity.com

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www.Baha'i.org

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info@stcatherineofalexandria.ca

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10:30 am - English Service
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Mid-Week Youth Program
905-775-0700 www.bbcwot.ca

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Golfing for charity, at Nottawasaga Resort

STAFF

The 24th annual golf tournament, dinner and auction for the Nottawasaga Foundation, July 15, was a tremendous success, raising money for local food banks, the Community Living Association of South Simcoe (CLASS), Children's Aid Society, South Simcoe Arts Council, Hospice Simcoe, MS Society, Heart & Stroke, and other causes – including a commitment to raise funds for a state-of-the-art cardiac monitoring system, at Stevenson Memorial Hospital's Emergency and Surgical Departments.

The day started early with a Ladies' 9-hole tourney that saw local fourtens – some in costume – head out onto the links for a morning of golf at the Nottawasaga Resort's premier golf courses.

The ladies returned in time for a barbecue lunch, then spent the afternoon relaxing by the pool, enjoying massage and pampering, before the dinner and auction.



All dressed for golf - the foursome of Debbie Watson, Bev Shaw, Sandy Higgins and Sharon Murphy.

They had picture-perfect conditions on the course, as did the golfers in the afternoon Open Tourney although temperatures dropped, they were spared the rain that swept through the area.

The event raised over \$412,000 - thanks to 193 hole sponsorships, 481 golfers, 674 dinner guests, and over 100 volunteers. For more information, see www.NottawasagaFoundation.com



Foursome at the Nottawasaga Foundation Ladies' 9-hole golf tourney, from left, Margaret Johnson, Innisfil Deputy Mayor Lynn Dollin, Nancy Stein and Gabi Borgo at the Nottawasaga Resort.



At the start of the Ladies' 9-hole charity golf tournament.

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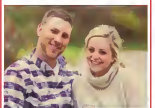


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Coming Events **Coming Events**

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Alexandra Vecchiarelli & Greg Lane
Saturday, July 23, 2016
Doors open at 7 p.m.
Bradford Community Centre
125 Simcoe Rd., Bradford
Tickets: \$15 for one or \$20 for two
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Obituaries **Obituaries**

KRUGER, Henni - Passed away at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket on Saturday, July 16, 2016. Henni Kruger of Bradford at 92 years of age. Beloved wife of the late Rudolf. Loving mother of Robert (Pat) and Walter. Proud grandma of Julie and Michael. Friends called at SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME, Bradford for visitation on Wednesday, July 20, 2016 from 1 p.m. until the time of a funeral service at 2 p.m. In Henni's memory, donations may be made to Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation.

A Loving Tribute

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Retiring after 26 years of service



MICHAEL KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Bradford CIBC Branch Manager Michelle Moonsee, left, thanks Diana Caietta for her years of service. After 26 years of serving customers, Diana Caietta is retiring from CIBC – and on Monday, July 11, her branch held a celebration, offering customers an opportunity to say goodbye, and thank you. Caietta had been working at IGA, when she learned that the CIBC, then located in the heart of downtown Bradford, was hiring. She hesitated – but quickly found her niche, and has spent all 26 of her years with CIBC at the Bradford Branch. “Everybody knows her,” says Manager Michelle Moonsee, who presented Caietta with flowers, and thanks.

Freddy the flea and Tony the tick

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Every week in June, dog walkers are asked to keep an eye out for Freddy the Flea, on pathways or parks in Bradford West Gwillimbury. If they found the much-larger-than-life-sized cardboard cutout, they were asked to take a photo of their pet with the giant flea, then pick up “Freddy” and return him to the Bradford Animal Clinic, at 35 John St. West.

Not only did they receive thanks from Dr. Mike Corradini, they won a free six-month flea treatment for their companion animal. It was all part of a promotional contest offered by the Bradford Animal Clinic during the month of June, that saw Freddy pop up in a new location each week – making residents aware that fleas are more than just a nuisance. They cause itchy and discomfort, anaemia in puppies, and can spread tape-

worm and other infections. The whole idea was to encourage pet owners to provide important protection for their animals.

That protection is especially significant when it comes to ticks. Black-legged ticks, deer ticks, brown dog ticks can all spread serious diseases, both to dogs and humans – including Lyme Disease, Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis, and Ehrlichiosis. Human beings can protect themselves by using Deet-based insecticides, wearing long pants, socks and closed shoes in the woods, watching for and removing ticks. Animals need preventative treatment to be protected.

Bradford Animal Clinic will be offering a similar contest in August – this time, with Tony the Tick. Watch for the oversized tick, and remember to bring him back to the clinic, to win free treatment for your pet.



MICHAEL KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Vetlerian Dr. Mike Corradini with Freddy the Flea, at the Bradford Animal Clinic in Bradford on June 10.

Fire department looking to the future

MICHAEL KING
Bradford Times

BWVG Fire & Emergency Services recently held a successful recruitment drive, hiring six new volunteer firefighters.

The open house and hiring wasn't an expansion of the fire service, though – it was done to replace volunteers lost to retirement, or to better-paying, full-time positions with other fire departments or in one case, the RCMP.

“It's a never-ending battle in respect to that,” says Fire Chief Kevin Gallant, “and I can't blame them.” BWVG Fire & Emergency Services takes on volunteers, trains them – but when full-time positions become available elsewhere, the volunteers often leave.

Bradford West Gwillimbury has a “composite” fire service, with a total of 35 volunteer positions, and a core of 16 full-time firefighters in four shifts, plus a full-time training officer, two fire prevention officers, chief, deputy chief, and administration staff.

That's what is approved by council and what is in the budget – theoretically ensuring four firefighters will be at the station, the minimum needed on a firetruck before it can respond to a call. In fact, with days off and sick leave, the trucks may end up having to wait until the first volunteers arrive, before they can leave the station.

“It's never enough,” said Gallant. “The Fire Master Plan has spoken to that,” recommending a minimum of 20 full-time fire suppression staff.

There are no plans to move away from a composite service, although the town is growing and fire calls are increasing. In 2014, the BWVG service received 1,340 calls, and 490 page-outs of volunteers. In 2015, that increased by 12.3% to 1,505 calls, with 547 page-outs – of which 824 were medical calls, 183 rescues/motor vehicle collisions, 174 false alarms (both fire and Carbon monoxide), and only 29 were fires or explosions. But as Gallant noted, “Until we get on scene, we don't know... If it's a fire or false alarm.”

The upward trend is continuing: so far this year, the department has responded to 965 calls as of July 15. While there are no immediate plans to increase the complement of full-time firefighters, there are plans to replace the 26-year-old fire station on Melbourne Drive.

A facilities review has been carried out, looking at ways to mod-

ify and expand the existing building, to meet the needs of a growing municipality, provide appropriate space for the full-timers, and facilities for training.

“There were some challenges with that,” Gallant said. “We'd basically be looking at doubling the facility” over a 20 month construction period, undertaken in phases to keep the town's only fire station operational while the work is being done.

“We looked at every option,” he said, but the building would have to be totally gutted and rebuilt, and there were health and safety issues associated with every option.

Fire & Emergency services then looked at the possibility of building a new fire hall on the Melbourne Drive property, but couldn't find a configuration that would work on the site. “We couldn't physically do it,” Gallant said. “We came to the conclusion it would be better to build a brand new facility” that would incorporate the latest technological advances, a building that could serve the municipality for the next 30 years – on a new site, leaving the existing fire station to be repurposed by the town.

Plans for a new 18,000 sq. ft. fire hall are still in a preliminary stage, waiting on talks with the County of Simcoe regarding a possible co-location of ambulance services in a new building, and selection of a suitable property.

“We're trying to move forward with this project as quickly as we can,” Gallant said, pointing out that even if the “shove it in the ground” by spring of 2017, it will be 2018 before the station can be occupied.

And it will still leave the municipality with only one station. At some point, with commercial development planned at Hwy. 400, new multi-storey seniors' residences in the works, and 1,100 homes planned for Bond Head, the town will need a second station.

“Bond Head has been on the books for the last couple of years,” noted Gallant. “Timing, in regards to that, is going to depend on development” – but it won't wait forever.

Gallant, who came to Bradford West Gwillimbury as Deputy Chief in 2007, calls himself an optimist, noting that the fire service has come a long way to keep up with a growing community, and growing expectations.

“My job is to keep that ball rolling.”

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